

# **2021 Championship Format & Regulations (changes in red)**



## **General Championship Regulations**

1. Championships outlined in these regulations (including the Premier championships) are considered championships for the purpose of Rule.
2. Extra time (if necessary) shall be played in all knockout matches including the final of all cup, league, and championships. In the event of a draw after extra time, all games except for Senior, Intermediate, and Junior championship finals shall be concluded by 'Winner On The Day' as set out in Official Guide Part 2. Replays that end in a draw after extra time shall be concluded by 'Winner on the Day'.
3. When Teams finish with equal points for Qualification for the Concluding Stages, or for Promotion or Relegation, the tie shall be decided by the following means and in the order specified:
  - i. Points awarded from the games in which only the teams involved, (teams tied on points), have played each other.
  - ii. Scoring Difference (subtracting the total Scores Against from total Scores For);
  - iii. Highest Total Score For;
  - iv. Highest number of Goals For;
  - v. Lowest number of goals Conceded;
  - vi. Play – Off.

In the event that two teams or more finish with equal points, but have been affected by a disqualification, loss of game on a proven objection, retirement or walk over, the tie shall be decided by the following means and in the order specified:

- i. Points awarded from the games in which only the teams involved, (teams tied on points), have played each other.
  - ii. Score Difference from the games in which only the teams involved, (teams tied on points), have played each other. (subtracting the total Scores Against from total Scores For)
  - iii. Highest Total Score For, in which only the teams involved, have played each other, and have finished equal in (i)
  - iv. Highest Number of Goals Scored, in which only the teams involved, have played each other, and have finished equal in (i) and (ii).
  - v. Lowest Number of Goals Conceded, in which only the teams involved, have played each other, and have finished equal in (i), (ii) and (iii)
  - vi. Play – Off.
4. Twenty four medals shall be provided for the winners of each Championship
5. When Championship games have reached the penultimate round, and different fixtures have a bearing on the final table standing, these fixtures should be played at the same time.

6. No team can be promoted or relegated to a higher/lower grade of a Championship if that Club already has a team in that grade. If a Club is relegated/regraded from any Championship Grade and has a team in the next lowest grade, then that team in the lower grade is automatically re-graded.
7. Clubs fielding teams in more than one Hurling or Premier Football championship shall be compelled to play in the highest grade first.
8. Where a club has a number of teams playing in different championships and a team withdraws or is removed (under rule 6.24 (b) (i) or (ii) TO) from the league stages of their championship then all their teams in the lower championships shall be automatically removed from their respective championships.
9. Each team must bring a ball for Championship, League, or Cup matches. The Coiste Chontae shall supply same in championship finals. The ball shall be presented to the captain of the winning team. Eight club officials shall be admitted to the sideline where their club team is engaged in Championship, League, or Cup matches.
10. 2021 Championship player re-grading will be completed by Meath CCC based on named players provided to Meath CCC by **June 27<sup>th</sup> 2021** and as outlined in Meath Bye Law 12. The list of named players must be provided by official club secretary emails to [secretary.cccc.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:secretary.cccc.meath@gaa.ie) only – and if not provided on time will result in players retaining their 2020 championship grading.
11. Covid Championship fixture postponement policy

If a weekend championship game must be delayed pending test results for suspect cases , or pending Public Health contact tracing / determination of close vs casual contacts etc - then the game will be refixed for the following midweek Tue,Wed,or Thur - and those mid-week dates should be considered provisional fixture slots for all games.

If any individual player or players cannot play, then the game will either go ahead on the original date - or on the provisional midweek dates if waiting for test results / contact tracing. If an entire team or club are advised not to play by Public Health, then the CCC will deal with that on a case by case basis as an exceptional event.

### **Football Championship Regulations**

12. The **Senior Football Championship** shall contain 16 teams drawn in rotation into 4 groups each containing 4 teams. The top 2 teams as decided in Regulation 3 and TO 6-21 shall progress to the Quarter Finals which shall have a predetermined draw.

Quarter Finals - (1)A1 v D2, (2) B1 v C2, (3)C1 v A2, (4)D1 v B2  
Semi Finals - 1 v 2 and 3 v 4.

The bottom 2 in each group shall contest the Relegation Quarter Finals using a predetermined draw as follows – and with 1 team relegated to IFC each year.

Relegation Quarter Finals (1)A3 v D4, (2) B3 v C4, (3)C3 v A4, (4)D3 v B4  
Semi Finals 1 v 2 and 3 v 4.

13. The 2021 **Intermediate Football Championship** shall consist of 20 teams drawn randomly in 5 groups each containing 4 teams. The top 2 teams in each group as decided by Regulation 3 and TO 6-21 shall contest the knock-out stages in a predetermined draw (10 teams in total). Intermediate winners shall be promoted to SFC each year.

- i. Preliminary Quarter Finals (1) B2 v C2, (2) D2 v E2.
- ii. Quarter Finals (3)A1 v 1, (4)B1 v 2, (5)A2 v C1, (6)D1 v E1
- iii. Semi Finals 3 v 4 and 5 v 6.

3 teams will be relegated from IFC to JFC at the end of 2021 – and 3 more in 2022 – to bring the IFC from 20 to 16 teams.

For 2021, the bottom team in each group (5 teams in total) shall be entered into an open draw to contest the 2021 IFC Relegation Playoffs as follows:

- 1v2 – loser relegated
- winner of 1v2 plays 3 with loser relegated
- 4v5 loser relegated.

**14.** The 2021 **Junior Football Championship** shall consist of the remaining affiliated Clubs and following the receiving of Affiliations each year CCCC An Mhi under rule 3.20 (ii) decide the format of this Competition. The Winners of the JFC each year shall be promoted to IFC the following year.

2021 format will have the 12 affiliated teams drawn randomly into 3 groups each having 4 teams. After group round robin stages, the top teams in each group as decided by Regulation 3 and TO 6-21 shall contest the knock-out stages in a predetermined draw as follows:

- PQF B3 v C3
- QF (1) A1v PQF winner; (2) B1 v C2; (3) C1 v A3; (4) A2 v B2
- SF 1v2 and 3v4

At the end of 2021, the 3 IFC relegated teams + 7 JFC quarter finalists (excluding JFC champions) will form the JFC for 2022 – and the remaining teams will form a new Junior 2 football championship for 2022.

**15.** The **Premier Football Championships** shall be organised as follows:

- i. It shall consist of 2nd, 3rd & 4th teams from Clubs. In exceptional circumstances a 1st team Club can apply to play in this Championship and this must be passed each year under 3-20 (ii).
- ii. The Premier Club Football Championships shall be graded in Divisions of 8 with Top 4 teams in each division qualifying for the Semi Finals as follows – 1v4; 2v3.
- iii. The Winner of each grade shall be promoted each year with the exception of the winners of Premier Div 1.
- iv. The grades in the Premier competition shall be known as the Premier Div 1, Premier Div 2 and so on down to the lowest grade.
- v. All games in the Premier competition are 15 a side but if a club/team in Division 3 or below are unable to field 15 players on any given fixture the match can be played down to a minimum of 13 a side.
- vi. The CCCC can fix all round robin games of the Premier championship to play on a home or away basis.
- vii. The Top 3 grades of the Premier Club Football Championships shall be played in 8 team groups. CCC An Mhi can decide to play lower grades of the Premier Club Football Championship's in two Groups of 4.
- viii. The Bottom grade of this Championship must contain at least 6 teams.
- ix. For 2021 only the CCC may utilise divisions of more than 8 to accommodate 1<sup>st</sup> team affiliations if necessary

- x. In all divisions except Div 8 the bottom 4 teams will enter Relegation SemiFinals, with bottom team vs 4<sup>th</sup> from bottom in one semifinal, and the other 2 teams in the second semi-final.

### **Hurling Championship Regulations**

16. The **Senior Hurling Championship** shall be run on a combination of a league and knockout basis under Rule 6.21 T.O. with Two Divisions of six teams each. Senior Hurling Championship to be ran in two sections i.e. A and B.

After the League stages, the top two teams in Group A qualify for Semi Finals with the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> placed teams play the top two teams in section B in the Quarter Finals as follows:

QF1 A4 v B1, winners play A1 in SF1  
QF2 A3 v B2, winners play A2 in SF2.

The team that finishes 6<sup>th</sup> in Group A is placed in Group B for the following year and is replaced by the Top team in Group B. Bottom team in Group B to be relegated to Intermediate Championship.

17. The **Intermediate Hurling Championship** shall be run on a combination of a League and knockout basis under Rule 6.21 T.O. Two Divisions of six teams each. Intermediate Hurling Championship to be ran in two sections i.e. A and B.

After the League stages, the top two teams in Group A qualify for Semi Finals with the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> placed teams play the top two teams in section B in the Quarter Finals.

QF1 A4 v B1, with winners playing A1 in SF1  
QF2 A3 v B2, with winners playing A2 in SF2.

The team that finishes 6<sup>th</sup> in Group A is placed in Group B for the following year and is replaced by the Top team in Group B. Bottom team in Group B to be relegated to Junior Hurling Championship.

18. The **Junior Hurling Championship** shall be organised on a combination of a League and a Knock Out basis under Rule 6.21 T.O. One Group of Six (6) teams. The top team after the Group stages are completed will qualify for the Junior Hurling Final. The second and third finishing team shall play off in the Semi Final. The Draw as follows A2 v A3, winner to play A1. The team finishing A6 shall be relegated to Junior 2 Hurling Championship the following year.

19. The **Junior 2 Hurling Championship** shall be organized on a combination of League and Knock Out basis under Rule 6-21 TO. Pending yearly Club Affiliations, the Meath CCCC shall decide on the Junior 2 Hurling Championship format. Teams drawn 1<sup>st</sup> in League section shall have home venue if deemed suitable.

- For 2021, the affiliated teams will be drawn randomly into 2 groups with the top 2 teams in each group qualifying for semifinals as follows – A1 vs B2; B1 vs A2